CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Magnetic tape comprising at least one servo track that includes servo data, comprised of at least two portions each having a series of short segmented vertical and horizontal segments.

2. The magnetic tape of claim 1, wherein the two portions are substantially mirror images of each other.

3. The magnetic tape of claim 1, wherein the at least two portions are terminated with circular openings.

4. The magnetic tape of claim 1, wherein the horizontal segments of the write gaps are much smaller than the vertical segments of the write gaps.

5. The magnetic tape of claim 1, wherein the horizontal segments of the write gaps are much smaller than the width of the write gap.

6. Magnetic tape comprising at least one servo track that includes servo data, that includes vertical segments only in a staggered pattern.

7. The magnetic tape of claim 6, wherein the vertical segments in a staggered pattern are substantially mirror images of each other.

8. The magnetic tape of claim 6, wherein the write gap segments are terminated with circular openings.

9. The magnetic tape of claim 8, wherein the circular openings are larger than the write gap segments.

10. Magnetic tape having a segmented staggered servo pattern, the magnetic tape made by writing the servo pattern using a series of short areas of magnetic material in a staggered pattern.

11. A method for manufacturing magnetic tape, comprising:

providing magnetic tape having at least one servo track that includes servo data; and

writing on the servo track using a servowriting head a servo pattern comprised of at least two portions, each having a series of short segmented vertical and horizontal segments.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the two portions are substantially mirror images of each other.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the servo pattern includes vertical segments only in a staggered pattern.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the servo pattern includes a series of short areas of magnetic material in a staggered pattern.

15. An apparatus for use in writing servo data, comprising:

a servowriting head;

a magnetic film on the head; and

one or more write gaps created in the magnetic film, wherein the slanted portions of said write gaps are synthesized by a series of short segmented vertical and horizontal segments.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the write gaps are terminated with circular openings.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the horizontal segments of the write gaps are much smaller than the vertical segments of the write gaps.

18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the horizontal segments of the write gaps are much smaller than the width of the write gap.

19. An apparatus for use in writing servo data, comprising:

a servowriting head;

a magnetic film on the head; and

two or more write gaps created in the magnetic film, wherein said write gaps are arranged in a segmented pattern.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the write gap segments are terminated with circular openings.

21. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the circular openings are larger than the write gap segments.

22. A method of writing servo data on a servo track, comprising writing said data with write gaps, wherein the slanted portions of said write gaps are synthesized by a series of short segmented vertical and horizontal segments.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the write gaps are terminated with circular openings.